

REMARKS

Reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

By the foregoing amendment, claims 8 and 9 have been canceled, and claims 11-13 have been amended. Claims 1, 6 and 7 were previously canceled, and claims 2-5 were previously withdrawn. Thus, claims 10-13 are currently pending in the application and subject to examination.

I. Allowable Subject Matter

In the Office Action dated August 21, 2007, the Examiner indicated that claims 9-12 contain allowable subject matter and would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. As suggested by the Examiner, independent claim 13 has been rewritten to include the features of allowable claim 9.

II. Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 103

The Examiner rejected claims 8 and 13 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,387,004 to Engel. ("Engel") in view of U.S. Patent No. 2,082,509 to Rabe ("Rabe"). The Applicant notes that claims 8 and 9 have been 1 canceled, and claims 11-13 have been amended.

Claim 13 has been amended to include the allowable features of claim 9, as suggested by the Examiner. Therefore, the Applicants submit that the rejection of claims 11-13 is moot and that claims 11-13 are allowable, as indicated by the Examiner.

CONCLUSION

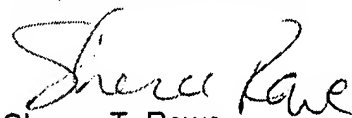
For all of the above reasons, it is respectfully submitted that the claims now pending patentability distinguish the present invention from the cited references.

Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding rejections and an issuance of a Notice of Allowance are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner determine that any further action is necessary to place this application into better form, the Examiner is encouraged to telephone the undersigned representative at the number listed below.

In the event this paper is not considered to be timely filed, the Applicants hereby petition for an appropriate extension of time. The fee for this extension may be charged to our Deposit Account No. 01-2300. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency or credit any overpayment associated with this communication to Deposit Account No. 01-2300, referencing Attorney Docket No. 107355-00109.

Respectfully submitted,



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